

5. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL SOCIAL INITIATIVES PROGRAMME FUNDS

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The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to the Committee for the allocation of the additional Social Initiatives Programme Funding for 2001/02. The major part of the funding (\$690,000) was considered by the Committee in August 2001. The total funding available to be allocated at this meeting is \$159 000.

BACKGROUND

In November 2000 the Community Services Committee set priorities and criteria for the next three year cycle of the Social Initiatives Funding Programme¹. In August 2001 the Committee reviewed its commitment to the currently funded projects against these priorities and criteria. In addition to the extra \$125,000 allocated by the Council to the programme in the 2001/02 Annual Plan process, a further \$34,000 became available to reallocate as result of the review process. The total Social Initiatives Fund is now \$815,000.

Further reports will be presented to this Committee as other processes recommended during the review (such as evaluation of individual projects) are completed.

Priorities

The Committee set the following priorities for the programme in November 2000:

- *Reduce disparity* - Projects which address the differences in outcomes between people.
- *Multi disadvantage* - Projects which work with people with some combination of the following factors; low income, inadequate housing, poor health, low school attainment and problems within the family.
- *Increase opportunities for participation* - Projects which enhance participation by people in communities, thereby creating networks, goodwill, trust, shared values and norms, and generating reciprocity.
- *Prevention* - Projects which aim to prevent negative outcomes, rather than address the symptoms of problems once they have developed.
- *Early intervention* - Projects which intervene in the early stages of the development of problems relating to multi-disadvantage.
- *Integrated approach* - Agencies which work with other agencies rather than in isolation.

Criteria

The Committee decided that projects funded through the Social Initiatives Programme will meet all the following criteria:

1. Not for profit status
2. Community initiative (not Council run)
3. Legislation compliance and good practice standards (as appropriate)
4. Potential or actual leverage of other support

ALLOCATION PROCESS

Projects being considered for this current funding allocation have been identified in one of three ways:

1. During the 2001/2002 Annual Plan process Councillors received numerous requests for financial support from the Major Grants budget. Some of these requests were referred for consideration under the Social Initiatives Programme.

These projects are: Restorative Justice, Drug Arm, Christchurch City Mission, Youthline, Eldercare Canterbury, and Home Made Partnerships Trust.

2. At its August 2001 meeting the Committee decided that all Councillors would be invited to identify projects for consideration.

¹ Detailed background information in the Social Initiatives Programme is contained in the August 2000 Evaluation report to the Community Services Committee.

These projects are: Asian Youth Trust, Molten Media, Canterbury Fiji Social Services Trust and Te Whare O Nga Whetu.

3. Some projects have been identified by staff as being appropriate to consider under this programme. These are usually projects from organisations which have approached Council for significant funding support outside the usual funding timeframes or which have been initially identified as having a strong fit with the purposes of the programme.

These projects are: Depression Support Network, Maori Legal Services, Step Ahead, Linwood youth projects, Home and Family, Te Ora Hou, Shirley Community Trust, Addington Maori Community Trust, Rehua Marae, Hei Hei Broomfield Community Development Project and Te Ropu Tamariki.

Separately circulated with this agenda are funding reports for each project including an assessment of the fit of the project with the priorities and criteria of the fund. Our recommendations are in the following categories:

1. Recommend funding of \$x amount.
2. Recommend funding from 2002/03 new Social Initiatives Funding.
3. Recommend decline funding.
4. Recommend decline funding and referral to Major Grants fund for consideration.
5. Recommend fund from the Metropolitan Discretionary Fund (decision at this meeting).

Note: There is \$66,000 remaining in the Metropolitan Discretionary Fund for the current financial year. The recommendations total \$50,000 and would leave just \$16,000 available to allocate to future emergency and new applications.

CONCLUSION

Once the new Social Initiatives Programme funds have been allocated the Funding Adviser (Michael McNabb) will work with each group to develop appropriate planning and reporting mechanisms. Funding will only be released when groups have complied with the Social Initiatives Programme monitoring and evaluation requirements. The progress made by each group will be reported to this Committee on an annual basis.

Recommendation: That the Committee consider the recommendations on each of the project sheets (separately circulated).

Chairman's Recommendation: For discussion.